Degree Courses, Master's Courses and Professional Courses for Muslim candidates on the basis of merit. As this resolution was not in conformity with the provisions of Section 8 of the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920 which provides that the University shall be open to all persons of either sex and of whatever race, religion, creed or class, a show-cause-notice was issued to the University Act for annulment of the resolution. A reply to the show-cause-notice has not been received from the University.

(d) to (f). The implications of the recent Supreme Court Judgement, regarding admissions to minority institutions on other educational institutions including Aligarh Muslim University, are being examined.

Recommendations of Ali Sardar Jafri Committee

4369. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations of the Ali Sardar Jafri Committee on the implementation of the Gujral Committee Report on Urdu;

(b) the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by the Government; and

(c) the time by which these are to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The report of the Committee to examine Implementation of Recommendations of Jafri Committee for promotion of Urdu (Ali Sardar Jafri Committee) has already been placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on 29th July, 1991.

(b) and (c). Government is yet to take decision in the matter.

[*Translation*]

Railway Passes

4370. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules under which railway passes for free travel are issued and the criteria thereof; and

(b) the number of such passes issued during the last three years, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Presumably, the reference is to grant of Complimentary Card Passes issued to non-railwaymen/organisations. Such Card Passes are granted by he Ministry of Railways to eminent persons, organisations devoted to social, cultural, scientific, literary, sports and educational activities of all India character etc. These passes are issued based on the guidelines and justification/merits of each case.

(b) A total number of 272 Complimentary Card Passes have been issued during the last three years (1989,1990, 1991), generally available over all Zonal Railways.

Job Oriented Education

4371. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of the steps taken to make the higher education vocationally job oriented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): According to information furnished by UGC, the Commission has a scheme under which it provides financial assistance

for restructuring of first degree level courses in Arts, Social Sciences and Sciences to link them with work, field and practical experience and productivity. The UGC has also appointed an Expert Committee to identify Vocational Courses to provide continuity of vocational stream at +2 level. Apart from the above UGC is already extending support in Computer Sciences, Electronics, Home Science, Management & Mass-Media Communications which equip the students with vocational skills.

National Lands use and Waste Lands Development Council

4372. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National land use and Wastelands Development Council to develop such lands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made so far to use the wastelands in the country, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council was established in May, 1985 with a view to placing proper emphasis on the twin objectives of proper land use and development of wastelands. The Council in the highest policy planning and coordinating agency for issues concerning the health and scientific management of the country's land resources. It oversees the work of the National Wastelands Development Board in the Ministry of Environment & Forests and the National Land Use and Conservation Board in the Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) The National Wastelands Development Board was established in 1985 with the mandate of undertaking wastelands development through a massive programme of afforestation and tree planting with people's participation. The Board is also the nodal agency at the Central level to coordinate and monitor the afforestation/tree planting activities under the 20 – Point Programme.

The State-wise achievements during the Seventh Five Year Plant period (1985-90) and in the year 1990-91 under afforestation and tree planting activities in the country is given in attached Statement.